

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Page 5, first full paragraph:

Once flexible member 55 and graft ligament 25 have assumed the position shown in Fig. 4, the graft ligament may be retained in that position by passing a cannulated crosspin ~~60~~ 57 over flexible member 55 and into transverse bone tunnel 40 so that the crosspin ~~60~~ 57 extends under graft ligament 25 and supports the looped graft ligament 25 within femoral tunnel 35. Then flexible member 55 is withdrawn from the surgical site.

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For one thing, use of this method can result in erosion of the patient's bone. More particularly, and looking now at Fig. 5, flexible member 55 must first be drawn down femoral tunnel 35, across the interior of the knee joint, and then down tibial tunnel 30 in order to pick up graft ligament 25; and then later, flexible member 55 must be drawn back up tibial tunnel 30, across the interior of the knee joint, and then back up femoral tunnel 35 in order to carry graft ligament 25 into position. These actions cause flexible member 55 to engage the bone which is located at the intersection of femoral tunnel 35 and transverse bone tunnel 40, i.e., to engage the bone edges ~~65~~ 59 (Fig. 5) as

the flexible member 55 is drawn down the femoral tunnel 35 and the tibial tunnel 30 and, again, as the flexible member 55 is drawn back up the tibial tunnel 30 and the femoral tunnel 35. This engagement between flexible member 55 and bone edges ~~65~~ 59 can cause bone edges ~~65~~ 59 to be eroded. This erosion can be particularly significant where substantial forces are required to draw flexible member 55 out of bone tunnel 20 (e.g., where flexible member 55 is a metallic flexible member with significant resiliency).

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Next, as shown in Figs. 10-12, first and second ends 60, 65 are drawn through transverse bone tunnel portions 45, 50. Where first and second ends include loops 60A, 65A, this may be accomplished by using a hooked-shaped pulling device 75. Pulling device 75 hooks and draws first and second ends 60, 65 through transverse bone tunnel portions 45, 50, respectively. See Figs. 10-12. Alternatively, where first and second ends 60, 65 do not include hooks 60A, 65A, pulling device 75 may include needle-nose pliers or the like at its distal end to pick up and extract first and second ends 60, 65.